



In this Issue

- ▶ May is Preservation Month
- ▶ Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Celebrated
- ▶ Video Contest Deadline May 31
- ▶ Update on Historic Preservation Fund
- ▶ National Trust Outreach Opportunities
- ▶ National Park Service New Features
- ▶ Recent Case Studies on New Life for Underused Properties
- ▶ Grants Available for Community Creative Placemaking
- ▶ San Francisco City Hall Now LEED Platinum
- ▶ Contact Information Needed From Preserve America Communities

Links

About Preserve America Communities
Grants
PreserveAmerica.gov
ACHP.gov
[Contact Us](#)
[Subscribe/Unsubscribe](#)
[Forward this newsletter](#)

Preserve America News | May 2015

May is Preservation Month

Now is the perfect time to celebrate the historic properties and special places in your town! Preservation Month began in 1973, only seven years after the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) was enacted. Today it still plays an important role in preservation across the nation. Read the [ACHP's Citizen's Guide to Section 106](#) to see how you can get involved with federal actions affecting historic properties you care about.



And get ready to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the NHPA next year. [Start planning now!](#)

Hendersonville, NC, a Preserve America Community

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Celebrated

May is also Asian American-Pacific Islander month. The ACHP has numerous recent items that might be of interest to communities with AAPI resources. Information about the [Preserve America](#) program, Chairman's Award for Achievement in Historic Preservation winners, Section 106 Success Stories, and partner programs emphasizing how Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders can preserve their heritage across the country is available. [Read more here](#), and read about the [White House summit here](#).



Video Contest Deadline May 31

Preservation Leadership Forum has launched the "[Old Places Matter Because ...?](#)" [video contest](#), asking you to share why places have special meaning to you. Tell them by May 31 in a short, 30-second video, and they will pick the top five to highlight in social media and feature at the PastForward conference this fall!

Update on Historic Preservation Fund

On April 29, 2015, ACHP Chairman Wayne Donaldson [submitted testimony](#) on the President's proposed FY 2016 budget for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) administered by the National Park Service. It is anticipated that the Interior budget will be marked up by the House Appropriations Committee in June. The other related issue this year is the need for Congress to reauthorize the HPF by the end of September; draft legislation would need to be introduced soon for that purpose. Several nationally recognized preservation partners have written to Congress urging them to act on both the 2016 budget and the HPF reauthorization. [Read more here.](#)

National Trust Outreach Opportunities

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is offering a toolkit for community members on [How to Save a Place](#) and fund-raising basics. It also hopes you will participate in its social media campaign for [This Place Matters](#).

National Park Service New Features

Get ready for summer heritage tourism with the latest [National Register Travel Itineraries](#). Some of the newest itineraries include AAPI and Latino heritage itineraries.

The National Park Service (NPS) is offering a new historic preservation Web site as part of its upcoming anniversary observance of both historic preservation programs and the NPS Centennial. [Check it out!](#)



© Paul Moore-Fotolia.com Mission San Xavier del Bac, Tucson, AZ

Recent Case Studies on New Life for Underused Properties

The recent civil unrest in Baltimore put a spotlight on the socio-economic constraints of some of the city's poorer neighborhoods, and vacant or deteriorated historic buildings provided a backdrop for many of the images accompanying media stories. Property vacancy and other challenges are highlighted in [Building on Baltimore's History](#), a report that was published in November 2014 by the Urban Land Institute and the National Trust for Historic Preservation working together as the Partnership for Building Reuse.

The Partnership for Building Reuse brings together community groups, real estate developers, and civic leaders around the common goal of

making it easier to reuse and retrofit vacant or underused properties. In addition to Baltimore, the Partnership has issued reports on [Los Angeles](#) and [Philadelphia](#).

National Register-listed Hendler Creamery Building in downtown Baltimore (photo courtesy Wikipedia)



Grants Available for Community Creative Placemaking

The National Endowment for the Arts currently is accepting applications for its Our Town grant program. The program supports creative placemaking projects with the arts at their core. Creative placemaking is when artists, arts organizations, and community development

practitioners deliberately integrate arts and culture into community revitalization work - placing arts at the table with land-use, transportation, economic development, education, housing, infrastructure, and public safety strategies. This funding supports local efforts to enhance quality of life and opportunity for existing residents, increase creative activity, and create a distinct sense of place. The deadline for applications is Sept. 21, 2015. For more information, [click here](#).



San Francisco City Hall Now LEED Platinum

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy announced May 15 that the San Francisco City Hall building has gained LEED Platinum certification. It is now the oldest building in the U.S. to receive LEED Platinum certification for existing buildings. [San Francisco](#) is a Preserve America Community. [Read more](#).



Photo courtesy Wikipedia

Contact Information Needed From Preserve America Communities

Has it been a while since your community was designated a Preserve America Community? Have you elected a new mayor? Has your contact person moved on to a new job? Have email addresses changed? In order

to stay in the loop about funding opportunities, model programs, and other resources for Preserve America Communities, please update the following information and send to **Judy Rodenstein**:

Community name

Congressional district

Name of chief elected official, email address and phone number

Name of best contact person, email address and phone number

**Advisory Council on
Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001-2637**